

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 307

By Litz

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Coach Rockey Parks and the Morristown Trap Team upon winning the 2008 Scholastic Clay Target Program National Championship.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly often pause to recognize those sterling scholastic sporting organizations whose efforts bring honor to both their participants and the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Morristown Trap Club competitive trapshooting team, the “Night Hawks,” is one such organization; the Night Hawks success at the 2008 Grand National Clay Target Competition in Sparta, Illinois, reflects the level of excellence attained by this organization; and

WHEREAS, the team is comprised of talented individuals, each of whom must maintain a 2.75 grade point average; the team’s members are Ryan Parks of Bulls Gap, Tyler Lucas of Seymour, Elias Crawford of Seymour, Matt Smith of Morristown, and Allen Parker of Tazewell, along with alternates Jacob Burns, Cody King, and Asa Crawford; and

WHEREAS, during the statewide competition, these intrepid shooters shot 496 out of a possible 500 traps, breaking a Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) national record on their way to the team’s sixth state championship; this near-perfect performance assured both the team’s victory and its qualification for the national tournament in Sparta; and

WHEREAS, the team members extended their impressive level of success into the national tournament, scoring an incredible 497 out of a possible 500 on the first day of competition, breaking their own record; and

WHEREAS, after shooting 490 traps out of a possible 500 on the second and final day, the Night Hawks completed the competition with a total of 987 traps, a level of success which

found them tied for the lead with the team from Alabama, and setting the stage for a “miss and out” shoot-out to determine the national champion; and

WHEREAS, the Night Hawks were victorious in the shoot-out, winning four to zero, and leaving the team from Alabama with second place for the third year in a row; each team member won a thousand-dollar scholarship for their future use; and

WHEREAS, missing only thirteen targets out of 1,000 on their way to the National Championship, the Tennessee team won more medals in the varsity division than any other state, winning one gold medal, one silver medal, and two bronze medals; and

WHEREAS, the victory was especially rewarding for Head Coach Rockey Parks, who has expertly molded the natural talent of the shooters into a championship caliber team; and

WHEREAS, the leadership and passion of Head Coach Rockey Parks and assistant coaches Sherri Crawford, David Lucas, and Jeff Burns were instrumental during the Night Hawks’ run for the championship; and

WHEREAS, during this incredible championship season, the members of the 2008 Morristown Trap Team have etched their names onto the hearts of Tennesseans and into the annals of Tennessee sports history; their dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent not only made possible a successful and memorable season, but also surely point toward their successes in future endeavors; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Head Coach Rockey Parks and the Morristown Trap Team upon capturing the 2008 Scholastic Clay Target Program National Championship, applaud their heralded success on the trap field, and offer our best wishes for their continued success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.